

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A ~~composition~~ in solid oral dosage form comprising a drug and, as an enhancer, a salt of a medium chain fatty acid which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, wherein said composition and each of said constituents and any other constituent comprising the composition is a solid at room temperature.
2. (cancelled)
3. (original) The solid oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the carbon chain length is from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.
4. (currently amended) The ~~composition~~ solid oral dosage form of claim 1 wherein the enhancer is a sodium salt of a medium chain fatty acid.
5. (original) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 4, wherein the enhancer is selected from the group consisting of sodium caprylate, sodium caprate and sodium laurate.

6. (original) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 1, wherein the drug is a polysaccharide, an oligosaccharide, a protein or a peptide.
7. (original) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 6, wherein the polysaccharide is low molecular weight heparin.
8. (original) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 6, wherein the peptide is luteinising hormone-releasing hormone analog.
9. (original) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 1, wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of TRH, unfractionated heparin, insulin, luteinising hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH), leuprolide, goserelin, genotropin, nafarelin, buserelin, alendronate, cyclosporine, calcitonin, vasopressin, desmopressin and salts thereof.
10. (original) The solid oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the drug and the enhancer are present in a ratio of from 1:100000 to 10:1 (drug : enhancer).
11. (original) The solid oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the dosage form is a tablet, a capsule or a multiparticulate dosage form.
12. (original) The solid oral dosage form of claim 11, wherein the dosage form is a controlled release dosage form.

13. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 11, wherein the ~~tablet~~ dosage form further comprises a rate-controlling polymer material.
14. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the rate-controlling polymer material is HPMC.
15. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the rate-controlling polymer material is a polymer derived from acrylic or methacrylic acid and their respective esters or copolymers derived from acrylic or methacrylic acid and their respective esters.
16. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the drug and enhancer and at least one auxiliary excipient are compressed into tablet form prior to coating with a rate controlling polymer material.
17. (original) The solid oral dosage form of claim 12, wherein the drug and enhancer and at least one auxiliary excipient are compressed into tablet form prior to coating with a delayed release polymer.
18. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the drug, the enhancer, the rate-controlling polymer material and at least one auxiliary excipient are compressed to form a controlled release matrix tablet.
19. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 18, wherein the

controlled release matrix tablet is coated with a rate-controlling polymer material.

20. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 18, wherein the controlled release matrix tablet is coated with a delayed release polymer.
21. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the drug, the enhancer and at least one auxiliary excipient are compressed into the form of a multilayer tablet prior to coating with the rate controlling-polymer material.
22. (original) The solid oral dosage form of claim 12, wherein the drug, the enhancer and at least one auxiliary excipient are compressed into the form of a multilayer tablet prior to coating with a delayed release polymer
23. (original) The solid oral dosage form of claim 13, wherein the drug and enhancer are dispersed in the rate-controlling polymer material and compressed into the form of a multilayer tablet.
24. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 23, wherein the multilayer tablet is coated with a rate-controlling polymer material.
25. (original) The solid oral dosage form of claim 23, wherein the multilayer tablet is coated with a delayed release polymer.

26. (original) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 13, wherein the drug, the enhancer, at least one auxiliary excipient, and the rate-controlling polymer material are combined into a multiparticulate form.
27. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 26, wherein the multiparticulate form comprises discrete particles, pellets, minitabets, or combinations thereof.
28. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The solid oral dosage form according to claim 27 comprising a blend of two or more populations of particles, pellets or minitabets having different in vitro or in vivo release characteristics.
29. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 26, wherein the multiparticulate is encapsulated in hard or soft gelatin capsules.
30. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 29, wherein the capsule is coated with a rate-controlling polymer material.
31. (original) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 29, wherein the capsule is coated with a delayed release polymer.
32. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 26, wherein the multiparticulate is incorporated into a sachet.

33. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 27, wherein the discrete particles or pellets are compressed into tablet form.
34. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 33, wherein the tablet form is coated with a rate controlling polymer material.
35. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 33 , wherein the tablet form is coated with a delayed release polymer.
36. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 27, wherein the discrete particles or pellets are compressed into a multilayer tablet.
37. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 36 wherein the multilayer tablet is coated with a rate controlling polymer material.
38. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 36 wherein the multilayer tablet is coated with a delayed release polymer.
39. (previously presented) A method of treatment of a medical condition comprising administering orally to a patient suffering from said medical condition a therapeutically effective amount of a dose of a composition which is in solid form and which comprises a drug effective in treating the medical condition and, as an enhancer, a salt of a medium chain fatty acid which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, wherein said composition and each of said

constituents and any other constituent comprising the composition is a solid at room temperature.

40. (cancelled)

41. (currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a composition in solid oral dosage form comprising the steps of:

a) providing a blend of a drug and, as an enhancer:

(i) a medium chain fatty acid or salt thereof having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms;

(ii) a medium chain fatty acid halide derivative, a medium chain fatty acid anhydride derivative, or a medium chain fatty acid glyceride derivative, which has each of said derivatives having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms; or

(iii) ~~a difunctional medium-chain~~ the fatty acid of clause (i) having, at the end opposite the fatty acid, derivative having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, which has on one end a salt, an acid halide, an acid anhydride, or glyceride moiety;

(iv) an acid halide derivative of clause (ii) above having, at the end opposite of the halide portion, an acid halide, acid anhydride, or glyceride moiety;

(v) an anhydride derivative of clause (ii) above having, at the end opposite of the anhydride, an acid anhydride, acid halide, or glyceride moiety; or

(vi) a glyceride derivative of clause (ii) above having, at the end opposite of the glyceride portion, a glyceride, an acid halide, or acid anhydride moiety;

~~derivative of an acid functional group, and on the other end a an acid halide, anhydride or glyceride derivative of an acid functional group, or a salt thereof, and~~ which blend also comprises, optionally, another constituent(s); wherein said blend and each of said drug, enhancer, and optional constituent(s) is a solid at room temperature; and

b) forming said solid oral dosage form of the composition from the blend by:
i) direct compression of the blend; or
ii) granulating the blend to form a granulate for incorporation into said solid oral dosage form.

42. (previously presented) The process according to claim 41 wherein the drug and the enhancer are blended in a ratio of from 1:100000 to 10:1 (drug: enhancer).

43. (cancelled)

44. (cancelled)

45. (cancelled)

46. (cancelled)

47. (currently amended) A composition in solid oral dosage form comprising a drug and, as an enhancer: ~~(a) a salt, halide, anhydride, or glyceride derivative of a~~

~~medium chain fatty acid which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, or a salt thereof; or (b) a difunctional medium chain fatty acid derivative which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, and wherein one functional group is a salt, halide, anhydride, or glyceride derivative of an acid functional group and the second functional group is an acid halide, anhydride or glyceride derivative of an acid functional group;~~

(i) a medium chain fatty acid or salt thereof having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms;

(ii) a medium chain fatty acid halide derivative, a medium chain fatty acid anhydride derivative, or a medium chain fatty acid glyceride derivative, each of said derivatives having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms;

(iii) the fatty acid of clause (i) having, at the end opposite the fatty acid, an acid halide, acid anhydride, or glyceride moiety;

(iv) an acid halide derivative of clause (ii) above having, at the end opposite of the halide portion, an acid halide, acid anhydride, or glyceride moiety;

(v) an anhydride derivative of clause (ii) above having, at the end opposite of the anhydride, an acid anhydride, acid halide, or glyceride moiety; or

(vi) a glyceride derivative of clause (ii) above having, at the end opposite of the glyceride portion, a glyceride, acid halide, or acid anhydride moiety;

which blend also comprises, and optionally, another constituent(s), and wherein said composition and each of said constituents and any other constituent comprising the composition is a solid at room temperature.

- 48. (cancelled)
- 49. (original) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 11, wherein the dosage form is a capsule.
- 50. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 49, wherein the capsule is coated with a rate controlling polymer material.
- 51. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 49 wherein the capsule is coated with a delayed release polymer.
- 52. (previously presented) A dry-blended composition in solid oral dosage form and comprising a drug and, as an enhancer, a salt of a medium-chain fatty acid which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms.
- 53. (previously presented) A solid oral dosage form comprising a drug and, as the only enhancer present in the dosage form, one or more members selected from the group consisting of a salt of a fatty acid which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms.
- 54. (previously presented) The solid oral dosage form of claim 53, wherein the enhancer is one or more members selected from the group consisting of a salt of a fatty acid having a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

55. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form of claim 53 wherein said fatty acid salt is a sodium salt.
56. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form of claim 55, wherein the enhancer is selected from the group consisting of sodium caprylate, sodium caprate and sodium laurate.
57. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form of claim 53, wherein the drug is a polysaccharide, an oligosaccharide, a protein or a peptide.
58. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form of claim 57, wherein said polysaccharide is low molecular weight heparin.
59. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form of claim 57, wherein the peptide is luteinising hormone-releasing hormone analog.
60. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form of claim 53, wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of TRH, unfractionated heparin, insulin, luteinising hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH), leuprolide, goserelin, genotropin, nafarelin, buserelin, alendronate, cyclosporine, calcitonin, vasopressin, desmopressin and salts thereof.

61. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form of claim 53, wherein the drug and the enhancer are present in a weight ratio of from 1:100000 to 10:1 (drug : enhancer).
62. (currently amended) The solid oral dosage form of claim 53 selected from the group consisting of a tablet, a capsule, and a multiparticulate.
63. (previously presented) A method of treatment of a medical condition comprising administering orally to a patient suffering from said medical condition a solid dosage form containing a therapeutically effective amount of a drug effective in treating the medical condition and, as the only enhancer present in the dosage form, one or more members selected from the group consisting of a salt of a fatty acid which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms.
64. (currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a solid oral dosage form comprising the steps of:
- i) providing a blend of a drug and, as the only enhancer present in the dosage form, one or more members selected from the group consisting of: a) a an acid salt, acid halide, acid anhydride, or glyceride derivative of a fatty acid having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms; and b) a derivative of clause a) which is difunctional fatty acid derivative having functional groups on either end of a in that it has, on the end of the carbon chain opposite having a length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, wherein the functional groups are selected independently for each occurrence

~~from members of the acid group, consisting of an acid salt, an acid halide, an acid anhydride, and or a glyceride moiety functional group, with the provision that both functional groups of said difunctional derivative are not selected to be an acid salt; and~~

- ii) forming said solid oral dosage form of the composition from the blend by:
 - a) direct compression of the blend; or
 - b) granulating the blend to form a granular material.

65. (currently amended) A composition in solid oral dosage form comprising a drug and, as the only enhancer present in the dosage form, one or more members selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a an acid salt, acid halide, acid anhydride, or glyceride derivative of a fatty acid having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms; and
- (b) a derivative of clause (a) which is a difunctional fatty acid derivative which in that it has on either the end of a the carbon chain having a length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms an acid functional group derivative selected independently for each occurrence from opposite the acid group consisting of a salt, a an acid halide, an acid anhydride, and or a glyceride moiety, with the proviso that both functional groups are not selected to be a salt.

66. (currently amended) The ~~dosage form~~ composition of claim 65 wherein the drug, the enhancer, and any other constituent present in the ~~dosage form~~ composition is

a solid at room temperature.

67. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form of claim 1, wherein the drug is a therapeutically effective amount of a bisphosphonate.

68. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 67 and including about 0.5 μ g to about 1,000 mg of the bisphosphonate.

69. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 68 in which the bisphosphonate and the enhancer are present in a ratio of from 1:100,000 to 10:1 (bisphosphonate: enhancer).

70. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 69, wherein the ratio is from 1:1,000 to 10:1.

71. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 67, wherein the

bisphosphonate is alendronate.

72. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 68, wherein the bisphosphonate is alendronate.

73. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 69, wherein the bisphosphonate is alendronate.

74. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 70, wherein the bisphosphonate is alendronate.

75. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 67, wherein the fatty acid has a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

76. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 68, wherein the fatty acid has a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

77. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 69, wherein the fatty acid has a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

78. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 70, wherein the fatty acid has a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

79. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 71, wherein the fatty acid has a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

80. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 72, wherein the fatty acid has a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

81. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 73, wherein the fatty acid has a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

82. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 74, wherein the

fatty acid has a carbon chain length of from 8 to 14 carbon atoms.

83. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form according to claim 71, wherein the bisphosphonate is etidronate.

84. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form of claim 67 in delayed release form and comprising a tablet which has thereon an enteric coating.

85. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form of claim 84, wherein the bisphosphonate and the enhancer are present in a ratio of from 1:1,000 to 10:1 (drug:enhancer).

86. (new claim) The solid oral dosage form of claim 85 wherein the enhancer is sodium caprate.